US and NC Agricultural Outlook

Nick Piggott
Dept of Agricultural & Resource Economics
North Carolina State University

Email: nick_piggott@ncsu.edu

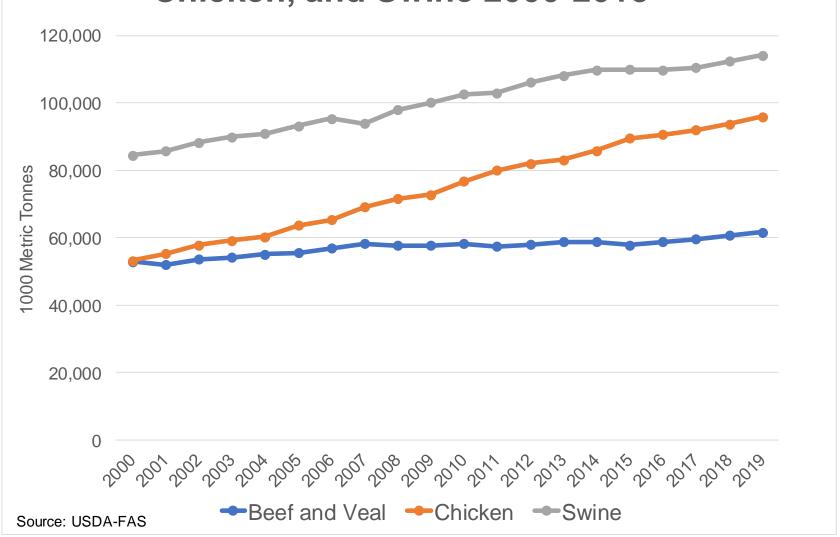
Presentation:

February 13, 2019
NC General Assembly's House
Agriculture Committee

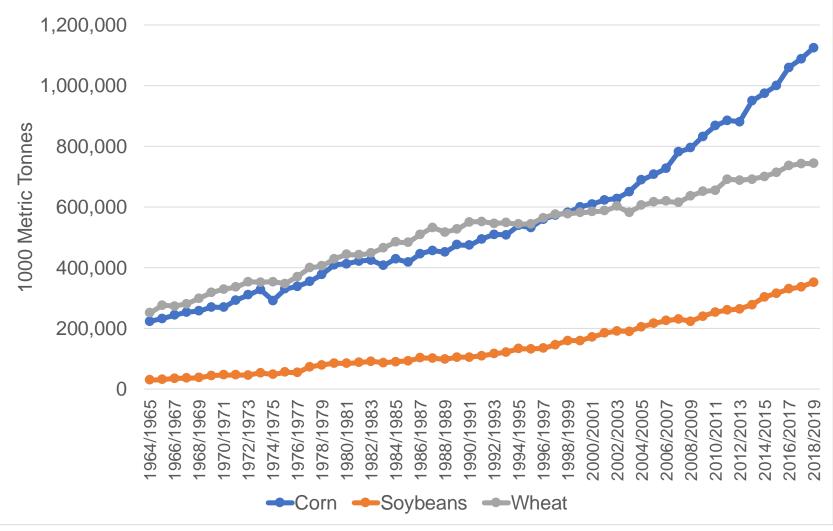
Outline

- ☐ World and US Agricultural Outlook
 - World demand for key agricultural products
 - US Farm Sector Income Statement
 - Major row crop planted acres in US
 - Corn and soybean supply and disappearance
 - Ending stocks impact on price volatility
- □ NC Agricultural Outlook
 - Concerns about declining feed grain acres
 - Feed grain deficit accentuated in 2018
 - Increases in NC corn basis
 - Potential need for investment in NC logistics infrastructure
 - Vulnerabilities for agriculture experienced during Florence

World Consumption of Beef and Veal, Chicken, and Swine 2000-2018



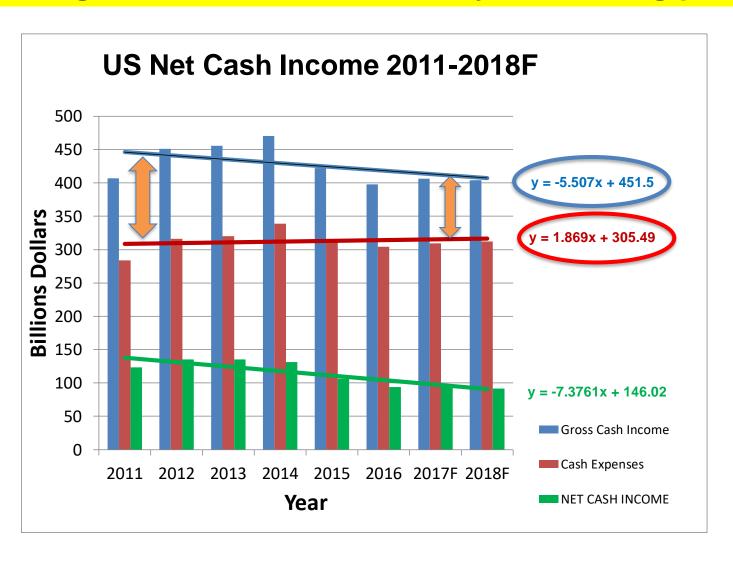


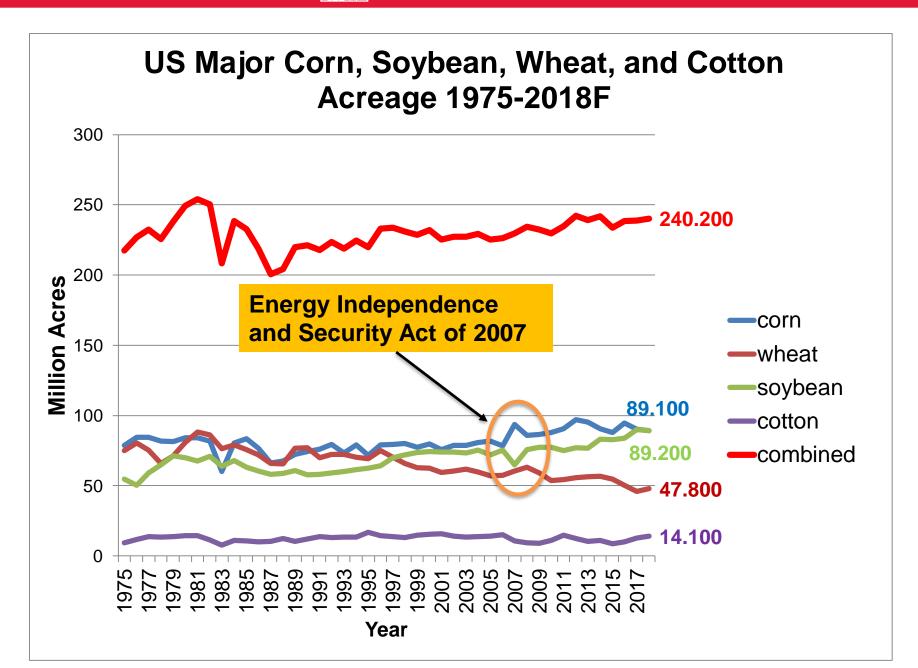


2018F US agricultural economy setting new lower levels from historical highs

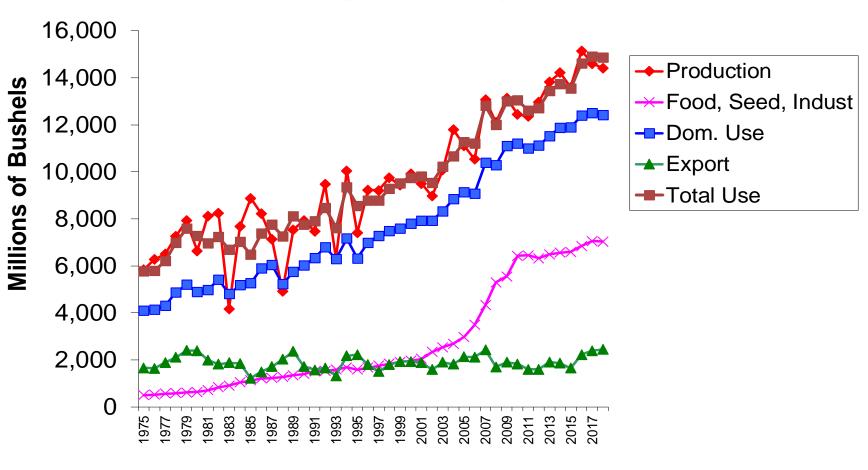
		1	2011-20	1	1					
									2018F	2018F
									V.	V.
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017F	2018F	2017F	2013
	\$ billion									
Cash Receipts	365.9	401.4	403.6	424.2	377.1	357.9	374.3	374.0	-0.1%	-7.3%
Crops	201.0	231.6	220.8	211.4	187.6	195.0	198.3	107.6	-0.3%	-10.4%
Livestock	164.9	169.8	182.7	212.8	189.5	162.8	176.0	176.2	0.1%	-3.5%
Direct Govt. Pay	10.4	10.6	11.0	9.8	10.8	13.0	11.5	9.5	-17.4%	-13.5%
Farm-related income	30.8	39.3	41.0	36.6	34.4	27.9	32.9	34.7	5.6%	-15.3%
Gross Cash Income	407.1	451.3	455.5	470.6	422.3	398.7	418.7	418.2	-0.1%	-8.2%
Cash Expenses	283.9	316.1	320.0	339.0	315.9	303.8	314.8	326.7	3.8%	2.1%
								\geq		
NET CASH INCOME	123.2	135.3	135.6	131.6	106.3	94.9	104.0	91.5	12.0%)-32.5 %
Selected ratios:				Percer	nt					
Debt-to-equity	14.5	12.7	12.8	13.3	14.0	14.5	15.1	15.5	2.7%	21.1%
Debt-to-asset	12.7	11.3	11.4	11.7	12.3	12.7	13.1	13.4	2.3%	18.3%

US agriculture experiencing a cost-price squeeze—increasing costs and simultaneously decreasing prices



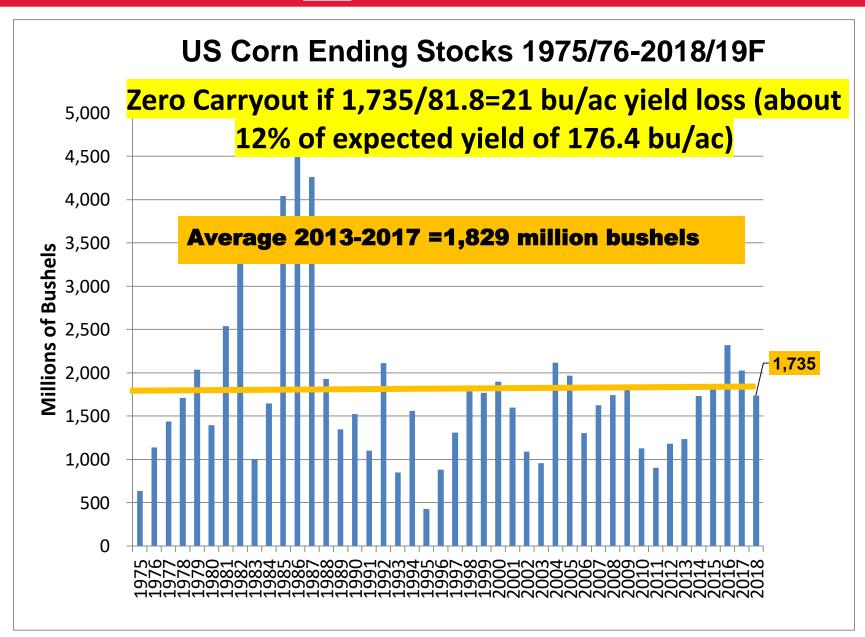


U.S. Corn Supply and Disappearance 1975/76-2018/19F

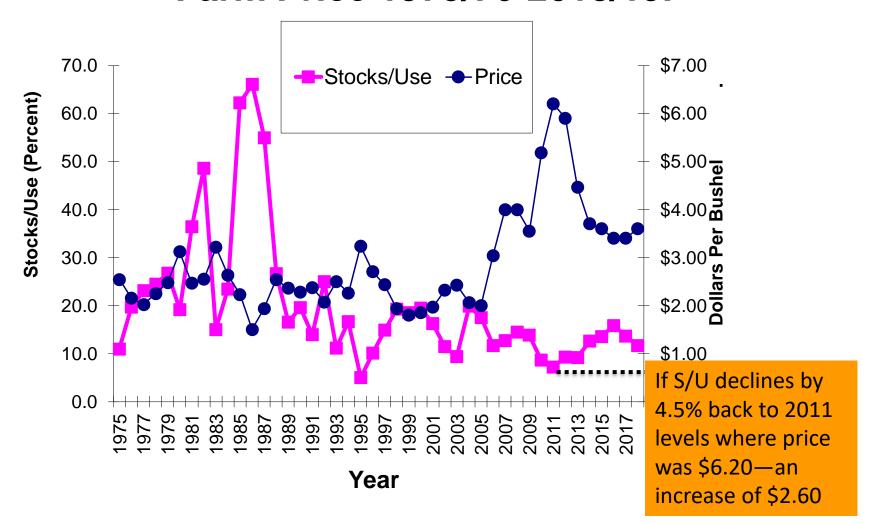


Source; WASDE, various issues

Year

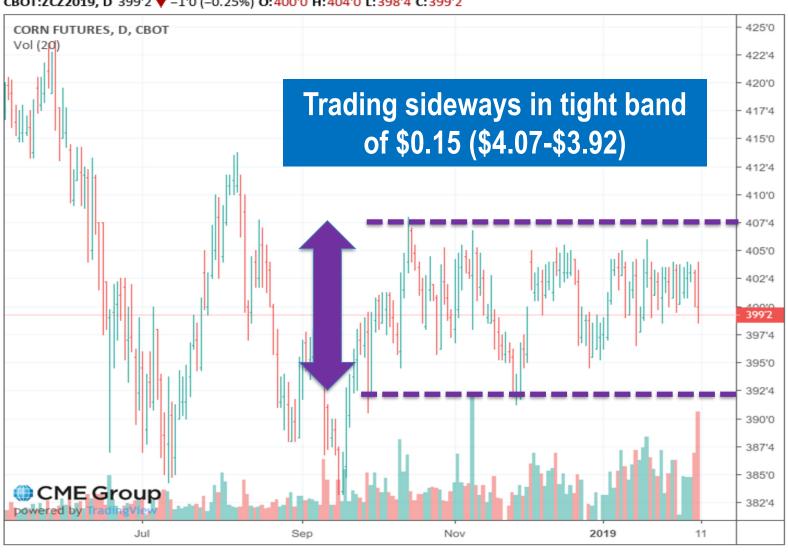


US Corn Stocks/Use and Average Farm Price 1975/76-2018/19F

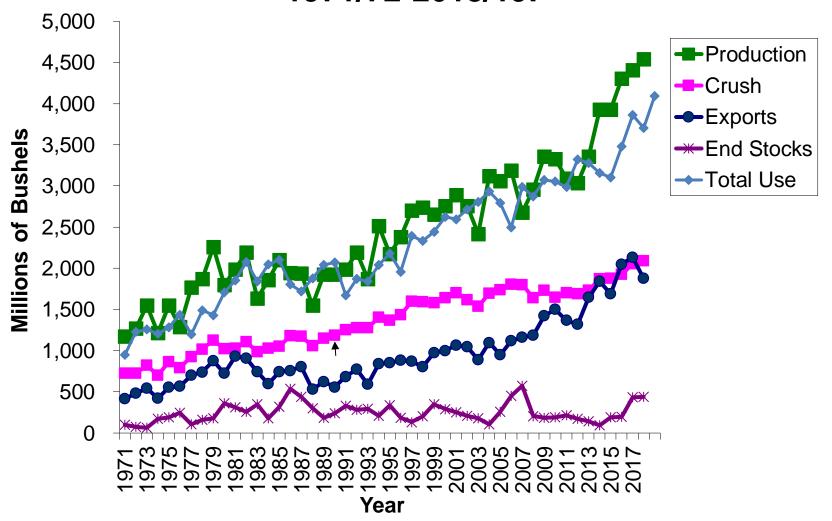


Corn Futures C-Dec19

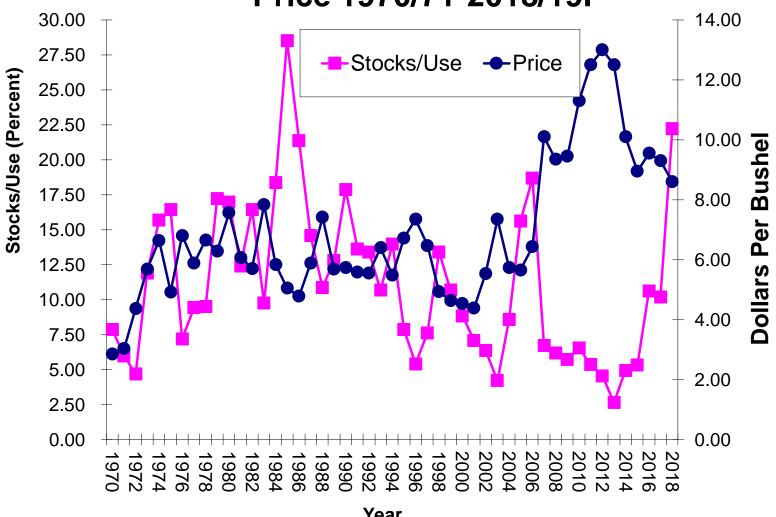
CBOT:ZCZ2019, D 399'2 ▼ -1'0 (-0.25%) O:400'0 H:404'0 L:398'4 C:399'2



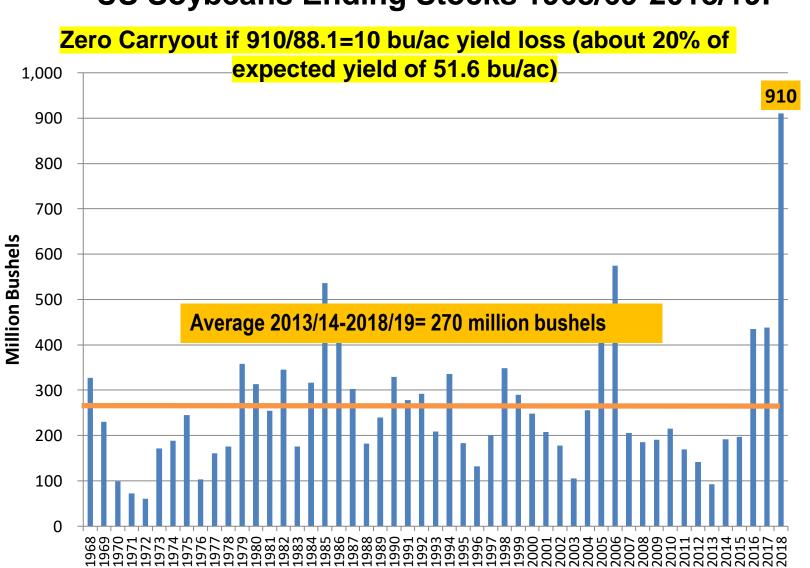
US Soybean Supply and Disappearance 1971/72-2018/19F









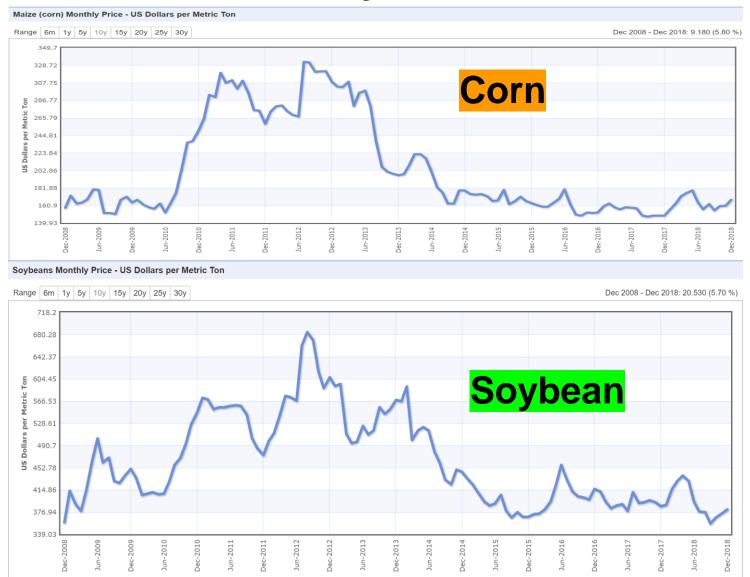


Soybean Futures S-Nov19

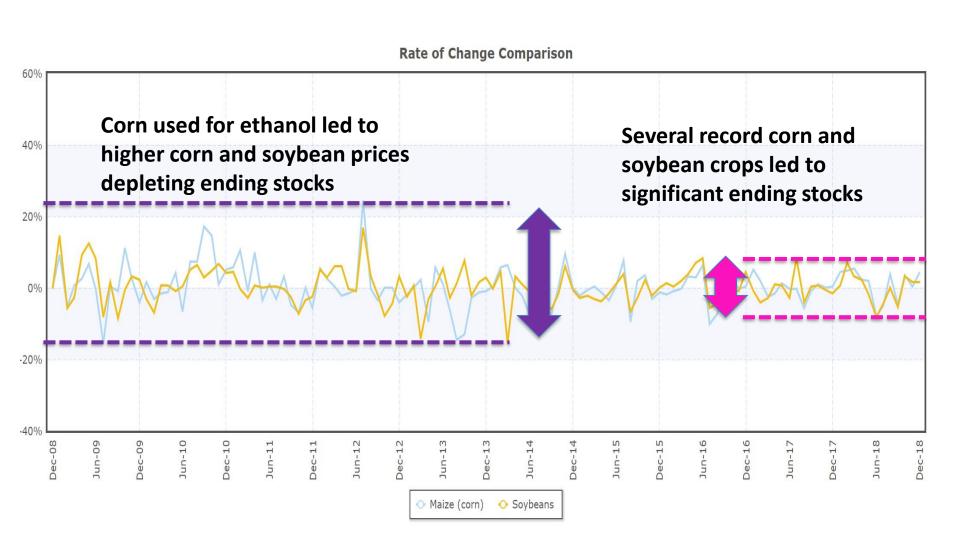
CBOT:ZSX2019, D 957'0 A +1'2 (+0.13%) O:955'4 H:960'0 L:951'2 C:957'0



Corn and Soybean Prices 2008-2018



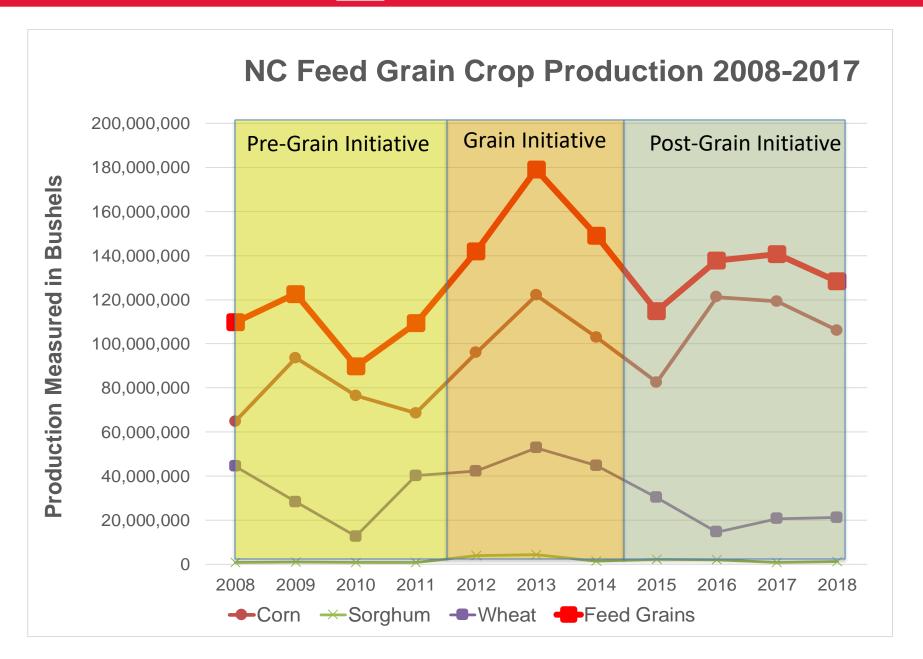
Ending Stocks and Price Volatility



NC Major Row Crop Acreage: 2008-2018

- □ Past 11 years reveals, over the pre- and post-feed grain initiative, a decline in total acres of 10.7%, with a decline in feed grain acres (21%).
- ☐ Corn acres have slightly increased 1.1%
- □ Wheat acreage has declined by 45.9% but this masks a significant run-up between 2010 and 2013 when wheat acres more than doubled but then significantly steadily declined
- ☐ Sorghum acres peaked during feed grain initiative then declined

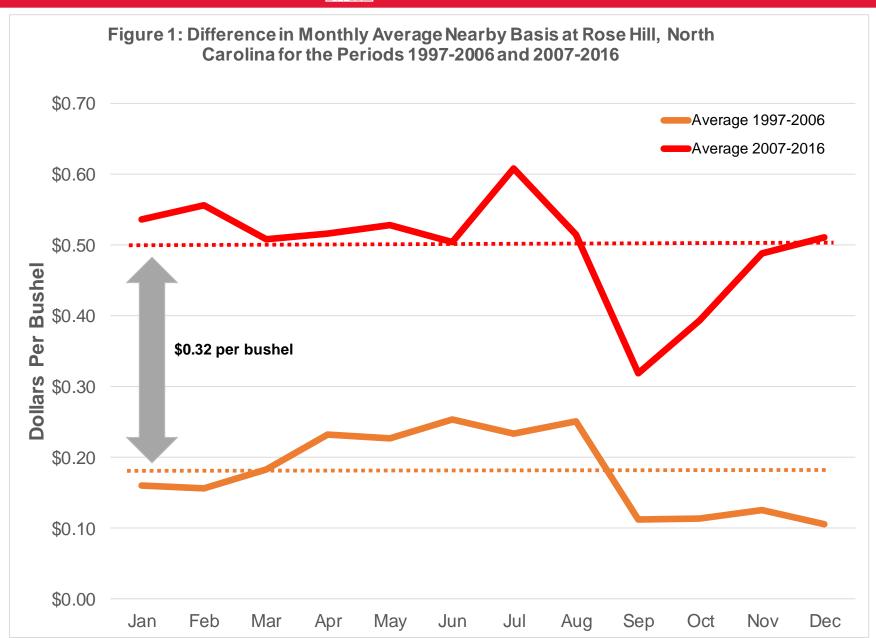
	NC Acres Planted 2008-2018												
												2008 vs	
Crop	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		
CORN ^a	900,000	870,000	910,000	870,000	870,000	930,000	840,000	790,000	1,000,000	890,000	910,000	1.1%	
WHEAT ^a	850,000	660,000	430,000	670,000	810,000	990,000	830,000	650,000	420,000	450,000	460,000	-45.9%	
SORGHUM ^b	16,000	16,159	13,262	14,936	70,366	79,187	26,640	39,516	45,000	20,000	20,000	25.0%	
COTTONa	430,000	375,000	550,000	805,000	585,000	465,000	465,000	385,000	280,000	375,000	430,000	0.0%	
SOYBEANS	1,690,000	1,800,000	1,580,000	1,380,000	1,590,000	1,480,000	1,750,000	1,820,000	1,690,000	1,700,000	1,650,000	-2.4%	
Total	3,886,000	3,721,159	3,483,262	3,739,936	3,925,366	3,944,187	3,911,640	3,684,516	3,435,000	3,435,000	3,470,000	-10.7%	
Feed Grains	1,766,000	1,546,159	1,353,262	1,554,936	1,750,366	1,999,187	1,696,640	1,479,516	1,465,000	1,360,000	1,390,000	-21.3%	
% Feed Grains	45.4%	41.6%	38.9%	41.6%	44.6%	50.7%	43.4%	40.2%	42.6%	39.6%	40.1%	-11.9%	
			Pre-Feed Grain Ini	tiative			During Feed Grai	n Initiative					
Source: a=Nas	s, USDA, b	=FSA, USD	Α										



NC Feed Grain Deficit Averages Around 50%, But Higher in 2018

Feed Grain/Livestock	Acres (5 yr. aver. 2012-16)	Yield	Lbs per Bushel	Production (5yr average 2012-2016)	2018	
		Bushel/Acre		Million Bushels		
Corn	886,000	126.6	56	112.2	98.3	
Wheat (80% fed)	740,000	53.2	60	39.4	21.1	
Sorghum	52,142	55.0	56	2.9	2.9	
Total				154.4	122.2	
	GCAU FACTOR	2017 Annual Head	2017 GCAU	Feed Demand		
Hogs	0.2285	9,000,000	2,056,500	171.6		
Broilers	0.0020	125,953,846	251,908	21.0		
Layers	0.0217	15,143,000	328,603	27.4		
Turkeys	0.0155	10,307,692	159,769	13.3		
Cattle	1.1055	830,000	917,533	76.6		
Total			3,714,313	310.0	310.0	
Feed Grain Deficit				155.6	187.8	

Note: 1 GCAU=2.12 Metric tonnes (or 4,673.8 lbs) in 2017 (dry-weight quantity of feed consumed by an average milk cow); 1 bushel is 56 pounds



Inherent Geographical Advantage— Demand and Supply Side

□ LOCATION-LOCATION

- NC agriculture has two substantial advantages over most other agricultural producing states:
 - 1. NC is less than a day's drive to most of the densely populated areas of the US—North East corridor which demands a lot of food with limited ability to produce
 - 2. NC has a coast and therefore a direct window to the increasing demand for food and commodities in the international economy via the Atlantic Ocean but our ports are largely under utilized for agriculture. Potential to be a major supplier of the world's protein.



NC Ports' Strategic Location



Source: Robert Hosford, International Marketing Division NCDA&CS

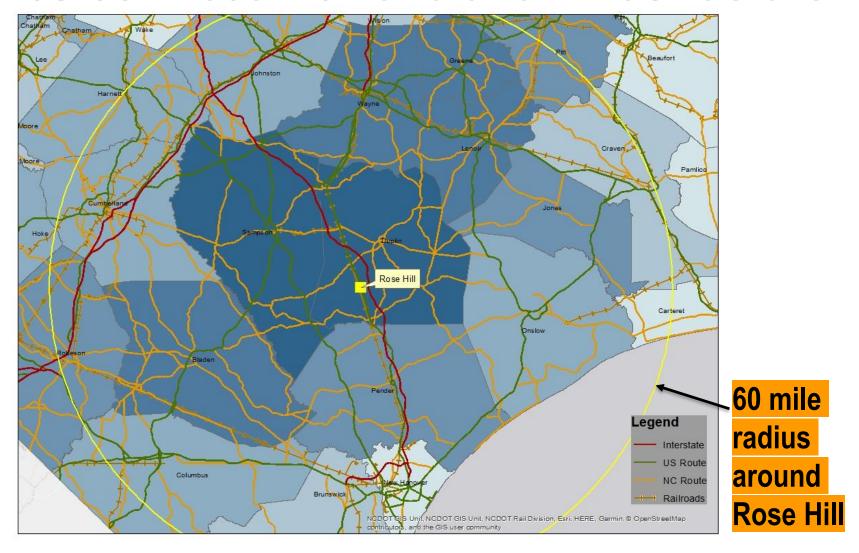
Investment in NC Logistics Infrastructure

- □ If the costs of transporting out-of-state sources continues to rise, it will only further increase the costs of corn the most important input to the livestock industry.
- □ To preserve the vitality of the NC agricultural economy, it would be prudent to consider further investments into the logistical infrastructure that will address current inefficiencies and potentially lower the costs of importing feedstuffs from out-of-state.
- □ Investing in improved railways and ports will not only be beneficial to the NC livestock industry, there will be significant positive spillovers to other industries that are dependent on transportation into and out of NC, so it should help to improve the overall economy in NC.
- □ In the interim we can expect continued strong and further strengthening in corn basis which will benefit NC feed grain producers. Continued high or even higher corn basis may, in turn, encourage greater corn production in NC which, in turn, could temper future corn deficiencies.

Vulnerabilities for Agriculture Experienced from Florence

- □ NC is vulnerable to severe weather during hurricane season which can lead to extensive crop damage and extreme flooding.
- Agriculture is particularly vulnerable in two ways:
 - 1. Row crop production occurs during hurricane season making for additional production risk. Corn and soybean crop losses and impacted planted wheat acres can accentuate the feed grain deficit.
 - 2. Animal agriculture is threatened; animals drown, interruptions of feed and veterinary supply deliveries, and negative impact on marketings
- □ Adaptions worthy of consideration for emergency response
 - Strategic input supplies pre-positioned? Where? How much?
 - Investment and/or co-ordination in logistical infrastructure (capital and modes of distribution) which facilitates continuity of critical input deliveries and orderly marketing of outputs

Livestock Feed Demand and Infrastructure



Source: Heidi Schweizer, ARE-NCSU

Final Thoughts

- □ World demand for key agricultural products is strong as a result of rising incomes and populations
- □ US Farm Sector Income Statement
 - □ reveals significant downturn and cost price squeeze
- ☐ Consecutive record US corn and soybean crops have resulted in significantly larger ending stocks
 - □ Lower prices but less price volatility
- □ Declining feed grain acreage is a concern for the vitality of the NC livestock industry
- □ Row crop farmers will respond with additional acres with price incentives which will require improved basis offers
- ☐ More analysis needed
 - Further investments into logistical infrastructure will potentially lower the costs of importing corn from out-of-state.
 - Potential capital investment in logistical infrastructure to increase resiliency in the agricultural supply chain during extreme weather events.